

Aug 1 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Responsibilities of CIA in the Field of Scientific and Technical Intelligence

Problem:

1. To clarify the responsibilities of CIA for scientific and technical intelligence as it relates to national security and to determine the appropriate means for carrying out the CIA responsibilities.

Recommendation:

1. That the DCI discuss this matter with the IAC along the following lines:

a. He should state clearly that he has a responsibility for that coordination of scientific and technical intelligence and that he does not consider the production of estimates in chemical warfare, electronics and guided missiles to be the exclusive concern of the Pentagon.

b. That he does not accept the view that the working level officials from the military agencies can vote his coordinating responsibility out of existence, and that therefore he wishes the Committees on electronics, chemical warfare and guided missiles to be continued and expects full cooperation on all the scientific intelligence subcommittees in the future.

c. He has here a list of subjects, estimates on which are essential to national security. He is asking Dr. Chadwell to develop the terms of reference, in collaboration with the designees from the other agencies on the respective committees. The terms of reference will be made available to the IAC members for their review if they wish.

Discussion:

1. Under the leadership of G-2 (largely Colonel Merrill of the Technical Branch of G-2), the military intelligence service agencies have voted for the abolition of the subcommittees on electronics, guided missiles and chemical warfare of the Scientific Intelligence Committee.

From Cooperation w. H. Outside Agencies, 1950-51

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2. This has brought to a head a fairly long standing attitude of G-2, and to a lesser extent the other military agencies, that scientific and technical intelligence in these fields is the exclusive responsibility of the Pentagon.

3. It is the conviction of O/SI, indorsed by C/IC, that the DCI has the responsibility for coordination of scientific and technical intelligence as it relates to national security, and for the preparation of coordinated estimates. These offices further believe that until this matter is clarified with the other agencies there can be no effective prosecution of needed cooperative intelligence research in these fields.

4. It is believed necessary to insure the necessary guidance and control that the third recommendation be applied since otherwise, despite the position in Recommendations 1.a. and b., there will likely remain room for maneuvering and sabotage on the part of the military. Whether or not the IAC needs to actually meet on the estimates need not be determined at this time. It may be that, as in the case of the atomic energy estimate of six months ago, the matter can be concurred in by the heads of the intelligence agencies without meeting. If there is a fundamental issue, then it most appropriately should be discussed in the IAC.

H. MARSHALL CHADWELL
Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

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